



**Red
Eye**

Friday
JUNE 3, 2016

★ FREE ★

A Chicago Tribune publication

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drink,
tunes,
fests

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NOT A ROM COM *(LIKE, AT ALL)*

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favorite Khaleesi, summons
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EAT

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DRINK

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WANTED: PROBLEMSOLVERS

MacArthur Foundation has \$100 million for a global solution

By Steve Johnson | CHICAGO TRIBUNE

If you've got a big global problem in mind and a good idea for how to solve it, then the MacArthur Foundation may have a little something for you: a \$100 million prize.

The Chicago philanthropy on Thursday announced the 100&Change program, planned to award its biggest individual grant yet via a competition in the realms of public-spiritedness and altruism.

As part of the judging, finalists will even be asked to give public talks detailing their ideas, the staid world of philanthropy borrowing from the popularity of public ideas forums such as TED Talks.

100&Change is, the foundation believes, unmatched in the field of giving.

"We don't think there is anything at this level of spending that is open as to problem and solution," said Cecilia Conrad, the MacArthur managing director who is leading the competition. "If we're trying to attract attention, it's to the notions that there are some problems that are solvable. The average foundation grants tend to be too small for solving the problem. This is creating another space."

The competition is wide-open by design, but it does ask would-be grantees to address "a critical problem affecting people, places or the planet," the foundation said. "Competitive proposals will be meaningful, verifiable, durable, and feasible."

"We're agnostic as to what the field is," Conrad said, "but we're looking for a bundle: We want the problem and how the problem can be solved or how a solution might be helped."

And, she added, "it has to be a charitable purpose."

In other words, an idea about reforming soccer rules to make the game more exciting probably isn't going to make the cut. Something about easy water purification, say, or eradication of rabies might.

The program aims to name up to five finalists by next summer and a winner by early 2018 at the latest.

100&Change is an acknowledgment by MacArthur—the 12th-largest U.S. foundation in terms of assets, according to the Foundation Center—that "the foundation doesn't know everything," Conrad said.

It also hopes to address a common problem in funding: Getting the money to take a good, proven idea up to a scale on which it can have

significance. And the "transparent" selection process and sharing of submitted ideas, MacArthur hopes, may encourage others to fund some of the concepts that do not win the grant.

The 100&Change grant, scheduled to be awarded every three years, is open to nonprofits, universities or the private sector, MacArthur said.

The grant, to be doled out in three annual chunks, will come from the foundation's annual giving, \$231 million in 2014. The money has become available as some other programs have been phased out because of MacArthur's new, tighter focus, said Conrad, including some giving in the areas of housing and in girls' secondary schools worldwide.

Applicants are required to register on the 100andchange.org website by Sept. 2 and complete a "substantive online application" by Oct. 3. A panel of at least 25 judges from outside MacArthur will evaluate the proposals and provide guidance that will let the foundation select up to 10 semifinalists, to be announced in December.

Abstracts of all proposals will be public, the foundation said, as will judges' assessments, and the semifinalists will be helped by experts to refine their ideas—an idea a little like

"We're agnostic as to what the field is but we're looking for a bundle: We want the problem and how the problem can be solved or how a solution might be helped."

— Cecilia Conrad, managing director at the MacArthur Foundation

the business-development reality TV show "Shark Tank."

"We also are asking the semifinalists to show us they have had authentic and substantive engagement with affected communities," rather than "an attempt from some entity to top-down manage a community," Conrad said. And the foundation wants ideas that can work relatively quickly, showing meaningful results within five years.

"This is saying, 'We know people have tested some ideas. Are these results something that can actually be used to have a significant impact?'" she said. "I'm excited to see what people put forth."



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sports

Chaz Ortiz competes in the Skateboard Street men's final during the 2014 X Games in Austin.



CHILLIN' IN AUSTIN

CHICAGO'S CHAZ ORTIZ CHASES SKATEBOARDING GOLD IN X GAMES

By Chris Sosa | REDEYE

Chaz Ortiz has been competing on his skateboard in the X Games since 2009, though a gold medal still eludes him.

Now 22, the Chicago native will try to improve on last year's silver medal in the Skateboard Street competition this weekend at the X Games in Austin (airing live on ESPN and ABC).

Before he does, Ortiz chatted with RedEye about how he stays in shape, whether he'd skate in the Olympics and his friendship with Lil Wayne.

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After finishing second in Skateboard Street at the 2015 X Games, how can you reach the top of the medal stand this year?

Just try my best and have fun. That's how it usually works out!

About how many new tricks do you plan to attempt in this year's competition, and can you give us a preview as to what they are?

Chaz Ortiz competes at Street League at UIC Pavilion last year. REDEYE FILE



I'm working on some new stuff. It's good to keep your tricks fresh because people don't expect them and I feel like you get higher scores.

What makes Nyjah Huston, who's won Skateboard Street the past two X Games in Austin, so tough to beat?

He's a really talented and consistent skater; we both have been skating contests for years.

How did your friendship with Lil Wayne develop, and how often do you skate or hang out with him?

Just from skating and seeing him around at Paul Rodriguez's park [in Los Angeles] and the Berrics [a different skate park in L.A.]. ... We just became friends. I haven't seen him in a little while, but we talk.

What other celebrities have you befriended through skateboarding? Has there been anyone you've been surprised to learn has a love of skateboarding?

I feel like skateboarding is a big wave right now; all the rappers are trying to skate. It's cool, it makes [the sport] grow [and] keeps kids out of trouble.

How long do you plan to skate competitively?

As long as my body allows me. [Laughs.]

How important is maintaining one's fitness in your sport, and how do you go about doing that?

I just try to stay healthy. I started boxing, too. I try to stay active on and off the board.

Have you been following skateboarding's push to become an Olympic sport, and are you hoping to compete in the Games one day?

I have not really been following how hard they are pushing the Olympics, but I mean, if I could do it, why not?



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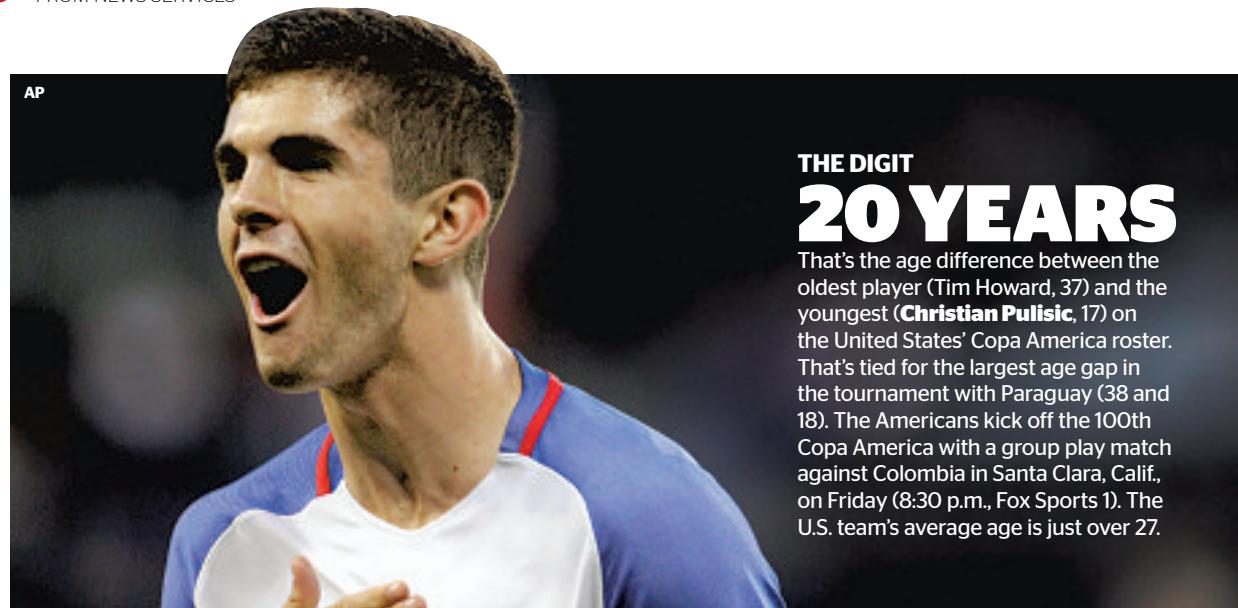


JUNE 10-12 | NAVY PIER

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**HOT DATE
DEC. 17**

That's when the United Center will host a college hoops doubleheader designed to pay tribute to "Legends of Chicago Basketball." Illinois will play BYU, and Northwestern will square off against Dayton. The organizers' goal is to make this an annual event with at least two Midwestern teams playing each year.

**THE DIGIT
20 YEARS**

That's the age difference between the oldest player (Tim Howard, 37) and the youngest (**Christian Pulisic**, 17) on the United States' Copa America roster. That's tied for the largest age gap in the tournament with Paraguay (38 and 18). The Americans kick off the 100th Copa America with a group play match against Colombia in Santa Clara, Calif., on Friday (8:30 p.m., Fox Sports 1). The U.S. team's average age is just over 27.

THE MOUTHWATCH

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— Ald. Tom Tunney, whose ward includes Lakeview, on a Cubs liquor license request potentially being more than it appears.

**STOP.
WATCH.**

This weekend's must-see events in sports

After this weekend, you won't be able to see the Cubs play at Wrigley until June 17. That's good for team bonding, though, and good for those who prefer the streets of Lakeview a little quieter at night. As for the White Sox, their next series is followed by another off day Monday before returning home. And yes, those are odd starting times. Taking guesses as to what the Detroit Tigers were thinking when they did that.

BASEBALL

Cubs vs. Arizona

- » 1:20 p.m. Friday, CSN
- » 1:20 p.m. Saturday, WGN
- » 1:20 p.m. Sunday, CSN

White Sox at Detroit

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movies

Emilia after Lou

Emilia Clarke trades dragons for more attainable strength in 'Me Before You'

By Lauren Chval | REDEYE

Emilia Clarke is no stranger to playing a strong woman. Best known for her role as Daenerys Targaryen, Khaleesi and Mother of Dragons on "Game of Thrones," she has liberated cities, brought men to their knees, started fires and emerged from them, untouched.

"You are small men," Daenerys said in a recent episode. "None of you are fit to lead. ... But I am. So I will."

It may seem like Clarke is turning 180 degrees in her latest role as Louisa (or Lou) in the romantic tearjerker "Me Before You," but when she and screenwriter Jojo Moyes sat down with RedEye at the Peninsula Hotel, the 29-year-old actress said the two characters are closer than you might think.

Daenerys has got the archetypical strength that is incredibly admirable and epic in quality, whereas



Lou's strength is so much more attainable. It's so much more real, and it's strength that we all have within ourselves," Clarke said.

"Even more, there are no dragons protecting her. She just has to be brave. And that is really difficult in day-to-day, modern-day life."

Lou's day-to-day life is in a small English town. Her lower-class family depends on her income, and she gets a job as a caretaker for Will Traynor (Sam Claflin), a quadriplegic injured in a road accident.

The two characters are well-drawn opposites. Will is acidic, proper and wealthy and doesn't

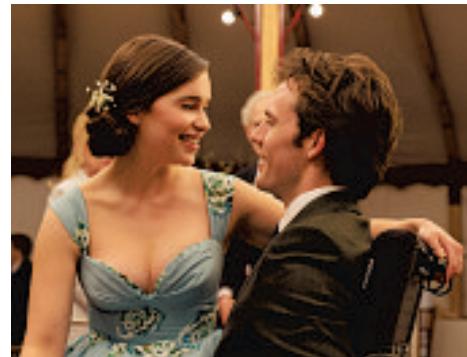
appreciate Lou's simplicity, cheerfulness or eccentric personal style. Both are, even after they've warmed to each other, immature and selfish. When Lou finds out that Will had once tried to commit suicide, her initial reaction isn't empathy but distress for her own situation as his caretaker.

"I just think the authenticity is what spoke to me first," Clarke said. "This isn't trying to be perfect with tinsel and fairy dust and all the magic powder that happens in a lot of these kinds of movies. It's much more based in reality, which is a testament to Jojo's perfect writing."

Moyes adapted her 2012 novel of the same name for the script, which is so confident that it's hard to believe "Me Before You" was her first screenwriting attempt.

"The thing that I did which was most useful to me was to get the screenplays of every film that I'd ever loved and dissect them and see what works," Moyes said.

As Clarke said, there's an authenticity to

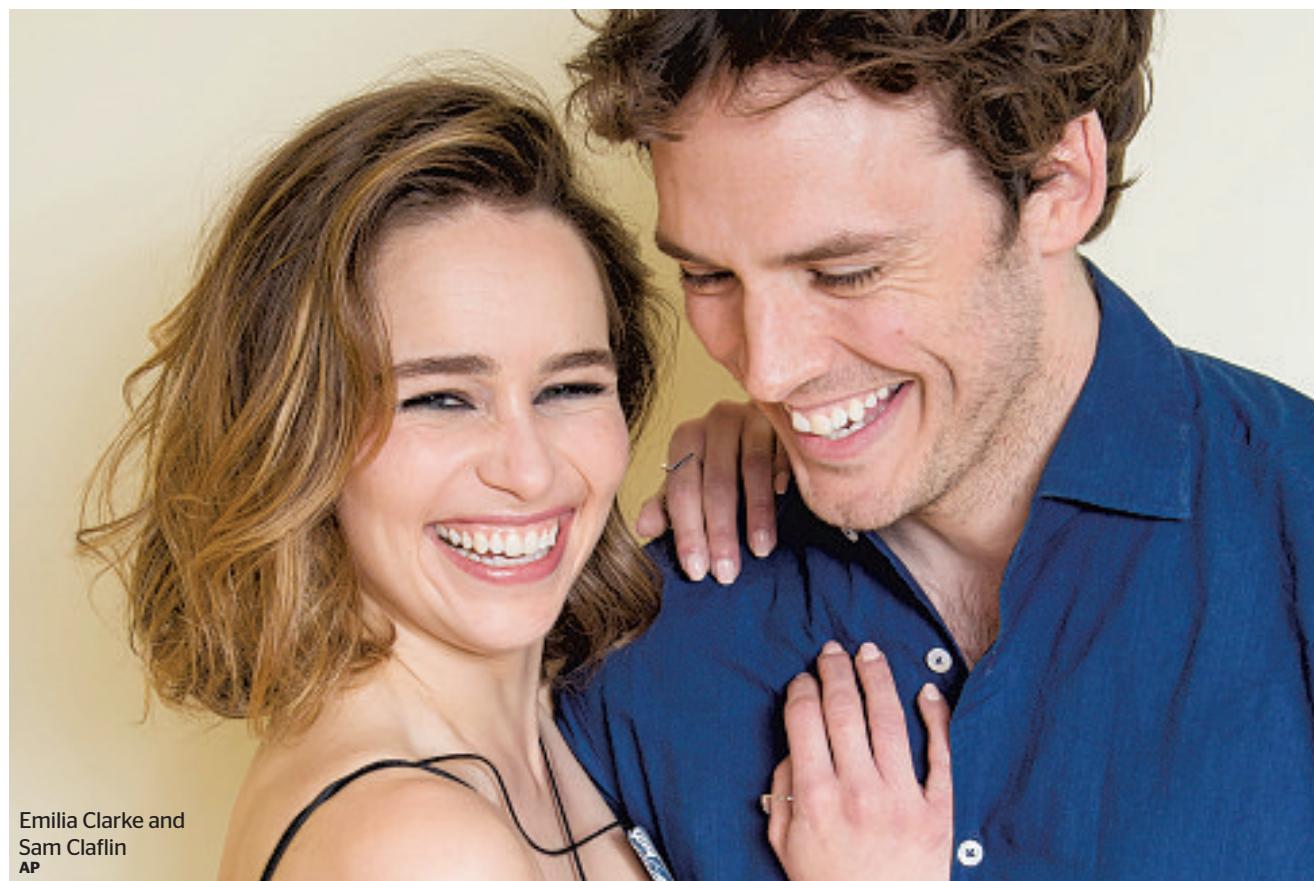


the characters and story of "Me Before You" that isn't typically found in romantic films. Lou and Will both learn from each other, but their relationship doesn't make the impossible possible or even fix each other's flaws.

"I didn't want it to be sentimental," Moyes explained. "I didn't want it to be idealized. I wanted two people who spoke to each other in the way that couples I know speak to each other, which is a wide variety of humor and



Emilia Clarke in "Me Before You"



“

I didn't want it to be sentimental. I didn't want it to be idealized. I wanted two people who spoke to each other in the way that couples I know speak to each other, which is a wide variety of humor and affection and irritation and bickering and deep, deep love and passion, and all those things can co-exist within a relationship in one day.”

-Jojo Moyes, author and screenwriter of “Me Before You”

affection and irritation and bickering and deep, deep love and passion, and all those things can co-exist within a relationship in one day.”

Beyond the dynamic of their relationship, Moyes confessed there were other elements of “Me Before You” that took inspiration from her own life. Lou tells Will about her childhood love for a pair of bumblebee tights, and Moyes said she was the original wearer of those. (She also recounted a “toe-curling memory” from the '80s that involved a turquoise pie-crust collar and white cowboy boots.)

“I had a velvet dress with bells in it. So, my parents could hear me wherever I went,” Clarke said of her younger self’s

best fashion moments. “It was a Christmas dress. With bells in it! It was cool at the time, and then after a while it was like, they knew where I was.”

There are other moments stolen directly from Moyes’ life. Mentioning a particularly bad gift from Lou’s boyfriend, Patrick (Matthew Lewis), sent both her and Clarke into fits of giggles.

“No,” Moyes said when asked if the scene



was inspired from her own life. But then she nodded. “No, no, not at all. Yes.”

Clarke admitted there have been a few bad gifts from boyfriends.

“There was one,” she said between laughs. “Oh my God. There was one piece of jewelry that like, whew. Yeah. I was very young. We were very young. I’m talking like kid stuff. But it was still ... it had a lot going on.”

The two women had a comfortable ease between them, possibly attained from their time together on a press tour, but more likely grounded in a mutual bond and respect for the character, Lou. Clarke has said she has never so immediately identified with a character in a script, and it’s easy to see how her expressive features so easily translated to Lou.

“It’s really important to me when I write female characters to write women who do stuff instead of buy stuff,” Moyes said. “Her goals are not materialistic or finding a man and everything will be OK. That’s not her arc in this story. I try to ask myself what my teenage daughter would take from any story that I write. And in this one, I think, ‘You know, Lou would be an OK character to end up like.’”

@LCHVAL

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Don't miss the well-written novel behind the movie

By Margaux Henquinet | REDEYE

Don't be fooled by the fact that it's the basis for the first big romantic movie of the summer; “Me Before You” is no simple, weepy beach read. It's a well-crafted, thought-provoking story about love in the face of challenges, about how people can change one another, about taking control of one's own life.

Louisa “Lou” Clark is a quirky young woman who is personable but far from a risk-taker, content with her small life in an English tourist town. After losing her job, she finds herself employed on a six-month contract as a caregiver for

Will Traynor, a wealthy former businessman and adventure junkie who is now a quadriplegic. She's charged with watching over him and encouraged to cheer him up, which at first proves difficult, but

she persists, and a friendship begins to form.

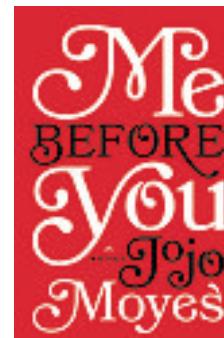
Then comes the big reveal: Will, tired of living with pain, dependency, the threat of fatal illness and a life so generally different from his old one, has decided to end his life at an assisted suicide clinic. He promises his parents six months, then they are expected to take him there, a plan they agree to but desperately hope he will change his mind about. And thus begins Lou's quest to convince him his life is worth living, through a series of adventures, experiences and emotions. It's a roller coaster, but they stick together, growing ever closer, and Lou finds herself being changed, too.

“Me Before You” takes a while to get going, as Moyes’ writing is full of description and little side stories, but once the plot kicks in, the stakes develop and the characters come clearly into focus, it becomes a can't-put-it-down page-turner. Some plotlines drag—Lou sticks with her ill-suited boyfriend wayyyyy too long—but Moyes works in enough surprises in both plot and style to balance everything out. Though it's Lou and Will's story, the other characters are well-drawn and mostly likable, especially Lou's family members, all of whom have big personalities. And get ready for feels: It's not as weepy as, say, “The Fault in Our Stars,” but there are tear-jerking, heartbreak moments, all of which ring true and are not gimmicky.

Again, “Me Before You” is not a simple beach read; it is, after all, a book whose main conflict is a potential assisted suicide. The book and film have drawn strong criticism from people with disabilities who say the story perpetuates harmful ideas about disability and suicide; Moyes has said it is “about one man and the personal choices he makes for himself, not a comment about people with disabilities in general,” according to Canada's CBC News. It's a tricky subject to build a book around, to say the least.

But the story overall is gripping and well-written, one that will stick with you. And definitely worth reading, star-studded movie or not.

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Emilia Clarke and Sam Claflin in 'Me Before You'

'Me Before You' will earn your tears



Lauren Chval

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If they have flaws, they complement each other's, or, even better, their love can cure such pesky side effects of humanity.

The problem with this familiar formula is that it never delves into the complexities of life or people. Identity and selfishness and insecurity—in addition to circumstances—don't render real love stories in black and white. So when a film decides to actually play in that gray area, it's hard not to take notice.

"Me Before You," adapted from the 2012 novel by Jojo Moyes, opens with successful

Tear-jerking love stories often hinge on one-dimensional elements designed to force as much crying as possible. Two perfect people destined to be together, if only cancer or Alzheimer's or class differences hadn't gotten in the way.

Enter Louisa Clark (Emilia Clarke), or Lou, who needs a job to help out her lower-class parents and her sister, who's going back to school. Will's mother hires her to keep him company, and he immediately resents her presence. She's color to his gray, and unsophisticated to his snobbery, but of course these qualities eventually begin to bring out the best in each of them.

It sounds obvious, but "Me Before You" sidesteps becoming a retelling of "Beauty and the Beast" (a jerk stuck in a castle made better again by a pretty girl) by presenting the self-centeredness and immaturity of both characters and having Will change Lou as much as she changes him. The details of their lives are

revealed with confident restraint instead of through painful monologues or voiceovers. Clarke and Claflin both turn in acutely human performances, rounding out their characters and sharing palpable chemistry. At the risk of sounding very British, it's all lovely.

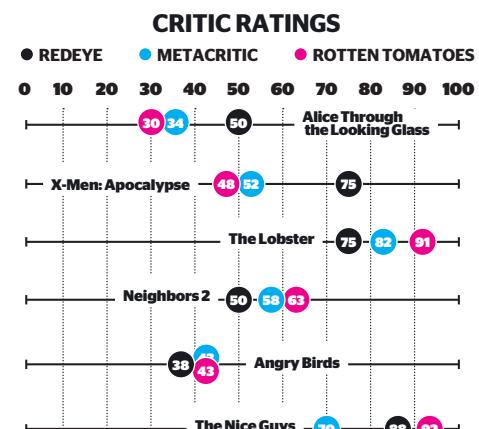
But what makes the film special is its refusal to buy into the trope that love makes everything better. It doesn't. And how could it? Lou's love can't heal a spinal cord. Life keeps going after the credits roll, and "Me Before You" makes no apologies for that.

The movie isn't perfect. Lou's personal trainer boyfriend, Patrick (Matthew Lewis), is horrifically flat and hangs around way longer than makes sense. A few lines of dialogue like "You take care of him, he's a good one" missed the memo about avoiding cheesy clichés, and there's an odd thread of misogyny in Lou's family that's never really addressed. But flaws aside, "Me Before You" is quietly funny and sexy and, above all else, feels real. It's the rare movie where your tears are actually earned.

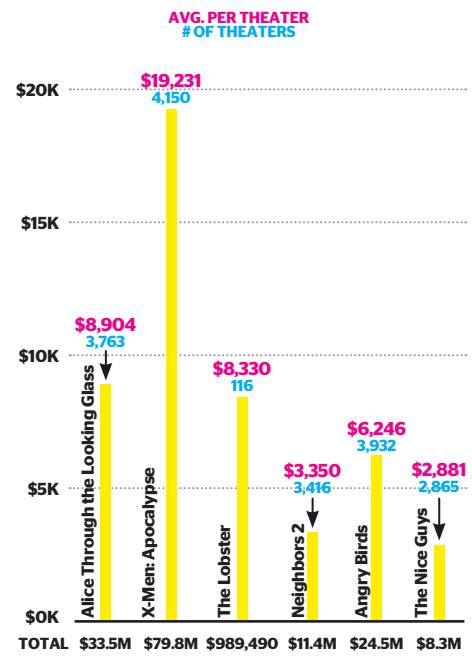
★★★★
ME BEFORE
YOU
PG-13

MOVIE BUSINESS

With a new batch of movies opening, you may be digging through your brain to remember what else came out recently. Here's a look back at what RedEye thought about some of the movies, an idea of how critical aggregators rate them and how much money each brought in last weekend. —REDEYE



WEEKEND BOX OFFICE AVERAGE PER THEATER



ALL BOX OFFICE RESULTS FOR MAY 27-30. SOURCE: BOXOFFICEMOJO.COM

NEW THIS WEEK

- » *Me Before You*, PG-13
- » *Popstar: Never Stop Never Stopping*, R (Review on Page 14)
- » *TMNT: Out of the Shadows*, PG-13

RATINGS KEY

- ★★★★ SOUL-CRUSHINGLY BAD
- ★★★★ PRETTY MAD ABOUT IT
- ★★★★ JUST DON'T
- ★★★★ WAIT FOR NETFLIX
- ★★★★ IT'S FINE
- ★★★★ IT HAS ITS MOMENTS
- ★★★★ SOLID
- ★★★★ FORCEFULLY RECOMMEND
- ★★★★ LIFE-CHANGING

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2015 DODGE DART SXT, BLACK, 40K MILES, Stk. #YPJ4528	\$10,999°	2016 JEEP PATRIOT SPORT, RED, 18K MILES, Stk. #YPJ4520	\$15,401°
2015 FORD FOCUS SE, 41K MILES, GRAY, Stk. #YPJ4526	\$10,999°	2012 MERCEDES BENZ C300 AWD, LUXURY, BLACK, Stk. #Y10212A	\$17,901°
2009 NISSAN XTERRA 4WD, V6, BLACK, SE, Stk. #YPJ4457A	\$10,999°	2013 TOYOTA CAMRY SE, V6, BLACK, 34K, Stk. #YPJ4524	\$18,701°
2015 VW JETTA SE, BLUE, 41K MILES, Stk. #YPJ4533	\$11,499°	2016 NISSAN MAXIMA S, 12K, CHERRY, Stk. #YPJ4519	\$25,491°

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‘Popstar’ nails it: Smart, funny and heartwarming



Lauren Chval

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Yeah, it's those guys. Andy Samberg, Akiva Schaffer and Jorma Taccone of "SNL" fame are back with the feature-length "Popstar: Never Stop Never Stopping." The title bears an intentional resemblance to "Justin Bieber: Never Say Never," as the mockumentary follows the rise and fall of pop star Conner4Real (Samberg) after he parts ways with his boy band The Style Boyz (Schaffer and Taccone,

who also co-directed).

Considering The Lonely Island is known for five-minute bursts of absurdist comedy, it's easy to assume that "Popstar" would consist of a half-baked plot and increasingly ridiculous jokes that eventually run out of steam. Instead, what we're given is a hilarious parody of celebrity, full of sharp commentary and dialogue. Even more impressive is the genuinely affecting, if obvious, story of friendship woven in between the jokes.

That isn't to say that "Popstar" is above immature humor; there are two actual, physical dick jokes, one of which is so unpleasant that it's clear the trio hasn't lost their desire to push boundaries. But lines such as "USA Today, the most respected newspaper in the world" or "You look like Nazi propaganda" show that "Popstar" isn't peddling one kind of humor.

Even the cameos (which are countless and inspire constant giggles of recognition) are



Jorma Taccone (from left), Andy Samberg and Akiva Schaffer in 'Popstar: Never Stop Never Stopping'

used with cleverness. Justin Timberlake plays Conner's personal chef, and as he sings to himself while chopping vegetables, the room tells him to be quiet: "Leave the singing to the professionals!" As Conner performs one of his hits, "So Humble," the camera cuts to Mariah Carey, who confesses that she instantly connected with that song.

Schaffer, Taccone and Samberg have the magical chemistry of guys who actually have known one another since childhood, but even the other two major players, Tim

Meadows as Conner's manager and Sarah Silverman as his publicist, are so consistently great that it feels like the gang has been together for a while.

It helps that "Popstar" is only 86 minutes and doesn't try to overstay its welcome. A few cameos fall flat (not even Bill Hader can make the guitar roadie bit work), but otherwise, the film manages to nail the trifecta of smart, funny and heartwarming. The fact that it's basically inspired by Justin Bieber makes that feat all the more remarkable.

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fests



Do-Division Street Fest
REDEYE FILE

Fest Planner June 3-5

DO-DIVISION STREET FEST, WINGOUT CHICAGO & MORE

By Heather Schroering | REDEYE

Choose your own cultural adventure this weekend with nine fests on the agenda, including Maifest, Lincoln Park Greek Fest and Taste of Little Village. Along with art-focused Pivot Arts Festival and 57th Street Art Fair, the sold-out Wingout Chicago has all the wings you can stuff your face with. Then dance it off at Do-Division Street Fest, Chicago Gospel Music Festival and the Millennium Park Summer Music Series. Read on for more. HSCHROERING@REDEYECHICAGO.COM | [@OHITSHEATHER](https://twitter.com/OHITSHEATHER)

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Maifest

 **When:** 5-9:30 p.m. Thursday, 5-11 p.m. Friday, noon-11 p.m. Saturday, noon-10 p.m. Sunday
Where: Lincoln and Leland avenues **How much:** Free
The skinny: Expect plenty of maypole dancing, sauerkraut and traditional German polka at the 17th annual Ravenswood celebration of spring. The fest officially kicks off Friday with a traditional wooden keg tapping followed by the crowning of the May Queen (8 p.m.). Along with German fare and live entertainment, catch waltzes and polkas at the main tent from Paloma (6 p.m. Saturday and 5 p.m. Sunday) and Phenix (6 p.m. Friday and 1 p.m. Saturday).



Maifest REDEYE FILE

Do-Division Street Fest

 **When:** 5-10 p.m. Friday and noon-10 p.m. Saturday and Sunday
Where: Along Division Street between Ashland Avenue and Leavitt Street
How much: \$5 suggested donation
The skinny: The Wicker Park/Ukrainian Village fest celebrates 10 years with live music on two stages, a 10-block sidewalk sale—including local boutiques, gift shops, bakeries and more—and a fashion stage showing

off the latest styles from West Town shops. This year's headliners, curated by Empty Bottle and Subterranean, include acts from near and far. On Friday, catch Peanut Butter Wolf at Empty Bottle's East Stage (8:30 p.m.) and Nikki Lane on Subterranean's West Stage (9 p.m.). Return on Saturday for A Place to Bury Strangers (8:30 p.m. East Stage) and Doomtree (9 p.m. West Stage), and Sunday for Beach Fossils (8:30 p.m. East Stage) and Fruit Bats (7:30 p.m. West Stage). For the full lineup, visit do-divisionstreetfest.com.



Chicago Gospel Music Festival
CHRIS SWEDA/TRIBUNE FILE

Chicago Gospel Music Festival

When: Noon-4 p.m. and 6-9:30 p.m. Friday and 4-9:30 p.m. Saturday

Where: Millennium Park and Chicago Cultural Center (78 E. Washington St. 312-744-6630)

How Much: Free

The Skinny: Hear traditional and urban contemporary gospel music from local and national choirs and artists at the 31st annual fest. This year's lineup includes 13-member gospel salsa group Orchestra Ebenezer Ministry (6 p.m. Friday), Percy Gray Jr. with Chicago youth choirs (8:30 p.m. Friday) and 11-time Grammy Award winner Shirley Caesar (6:30 p.m. Saturday) at the Jay Pritzker Pavilion. Plus, catch music at the Chicago Cultural Center on Friday, such as the Kenwood Academy High School Concert Choir (12:30 p.m.) and Candy LaFlora (1 p.m.). For the full schedule, visit chicagogospelmusicfestival.us.



57th Street Art Fair



Chicago Gospel Music Festival CHRIS SWEDA/TRIBUNE FILE

Pivot Arts Festival

When: June 2-12

Where: Various locations throughout Edgewater and Uptown

How much: Some events are free, while others are ticketed. Individual event ticket prices vary; \$45 for a three-event pass. Tickets: pivotarts.org/festival

The skinny: This 10-day fest features 14 events full of music, theater, dance, workshops, discussions and more. This weekend's festivities include Festival Tapas Night on Friday with three short theater and dance performances from SouthSide SailorScouts, Peter Carpenter and The Hypocrites at Loyola University's Mundelein Center for Fine and Performing Arts (\$25, 7:30 p.m. 1020 W. Sheridan Road 773-508-8400). Tickets to the performance include entry to the Hip Hop Celebration on Friday at Bar 63 featuring a 3-D light show and music from DJs Blackdaylight, Funksolo and more (\$10 or free with entry to Festival Tapas Night, 10 p.m. 6341 N. Broadway 773-942-6269). Catch a parade Saturday (1:30 p.m.) with bites from Lickity Split Frozen Custard & Sweets and Lovely bake shop along with live performances (5900 N. Winthrop Ave.).

57th Street Art Fair

When: 11 a.m.-7 p.m. Saturday and 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Sunday

Where: William H. Ray Elementary School (5631 S. Kimbark Ave. 773-234-3247)

How much: Free

The skinny: More than 200 visual artists—from woodworkers and printmakers to sculptors and fiber artists—come together for one of the oldest juried art fairs in the Midwest. Between browsing, watch artists at work, such as pastelist Marikay Peter Witlock (11 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday) and milliner Melvina Stemley (2-5 p.m. Sunday). Sit in on artist pop-up talks, including leatherworker Steven Malone (3 p.m. Saturday, booth 642) and stained glass worker Lee Klade (noon Sunday, booth 717). Also catch live tunes on a stage curated by Buddy Guy's Legends, including Tracye Eileen (4:15 p.m. Saturday) and Matt Hendricks (3 p.m. Sunday).



LENNY GILMORE/REDEYE FILE

Wingout Chicago

When: 2-6 p.m. Saturday and Sunday

Where: St. Michael in Old Town (1633 N. Cleveland Ave. 815-354-2068)

How much: Sold out

The skinny: Lucky ticket holders can chow down on all-you-can-eat chicken wings from 25 Degrees, Aberdeen Tap, Dinosaur Bar-B-Que and more in flavors from classic, honey-chili and jerk to spicy garlic, Asian ginger and habanero. Tickets include a pint of Sam Adams beer and live reggae music curated by The Wild Hare.

Continued on page 18

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fests

Continued from page 17



Taste of Little Village: Flavors of Mexico

When: Noon-10 p.m. Friday through Sunday

Where: 26th Street and Sacramento Avenue How much: Free

The skinny: Tacos, gorditas, enchiladas, tortas and flautas are on the menu at this fest. Serving up the best of Little Village cuisine are La Barca El Taconazo, Taqueria Los Comales and Margarita Portillo, plus several Pilsen restaurants. Along with cooking demos, carnival rides and arts and crafts, each day includes a full lineup of live music, such as Koncreto (8 p.m. Friday) and Sangre Nortena (8 p.m. Saturday).



Millennium Park Summer Music Series

When: 6:30 p.m. (unless otherwise noted) every Monday and Thursday through Aug. 25

Where: Millennium Park, Jay Pritzker Pavilion (201 E. Randolph St.)

How much: Free

The skinny: Formerly Downtown Sound, these 18 free concerts take place twice a week throughout the summer, bringing in musicians from a variety of genres. Kicking off the series on June 6 is indie rock band Blonde Redhead with guitarist Ryley Walker blending genres from folk to rock to jazz. For the full schedule, visit cityofchicago.org.



Lincoln Park Greek Fest

When: 5-11 p.m. Friday, noon-11 p.m. Saturday and noon-10 p.m. Sunday

Where: St. George Greek Orthodox Church (2701 N. Sheffield Ave. 773-525-1793)

How much: Any donation is accepted but not mandatory

The skinny: Go from zero to gyro in no time at this traditional Greek fest with music, food and dancing that'll have you saying "Opa!" Snack on gyros with lamb and beef, moussaka, spinach pie and baklava while listening to live music, including headliners Sixteen Candles (7:30-10 p.m. Friday). Also catch folk dance groups such as Perifania School of Hellenic Music & Dance (6:30 and 8 p.m. Saturday) and Orpheus Hellenic Folklore Society (8 p.m. Sunday).

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Kimski seamlessly blends Polish and Korean cuisines in Bridgeport

By Michael Nagrant | FOR REDEYE

If you've ever wondered what Logan Square or Wicker Park looked like before hipsters, all you have to do is spend some time in the neighborhood surrounding Kimski, a new Korean-Polish fusion counter at Maria's Packaged Goods & Community Bar in Bridgeport. There, you'll find Section 8 housing, a metalworking shop, cops, politicians, blue collars and white collars—a true-blue Chicago neighborhood bursting at the seams.

If Bridgeport had a mayor, the role would be split between brothers and Maria's owners Ed and Mike Marszewski. Half-Polish, half-Korean, the Marszewskis ran a regular KoPo (Korean-Polish) night at the bar where they served Polish sausages topped with kimchi kraut. That's where chef Won Kim—a recent champion of Food Network's "Cutthroat Kitchen," local urban muralist and longtime pop-up restaurant contributor—met Ed and the crew.

"I liked to make a regular habit of what I call getting 'Maria's drunk.' You know, totally blasted out, where you make a lot of bad decisions on the way home," Kim said. "One night I was helping out and started plating the sausages all arty and in smaller portions to prevent all the drunk people from taking three sausages at a time. That's when Ed and I started talking about his idea for Kimski."

The scene

While Maria's is a perfect blend of old-man dive bar meets darkly lit Prohibition-era speakeasy, Kimski is an airy warehouse-like space outfitted with bright yellow industrial stools, a sleek wood bar and mod-style booths. You'll find some of Maria's grizzled regulars, but there's also a stroller or two accompanying young families.

The food

It's rare to find something truly original in Chicago, land of all restaurants. But Kim has managed to create a concept that didn't already exist. His food is its own thing, a true 50-50 situation that your babcia (Polish grandma) or halmoni (Korean grandma) would appreciate. Maria's Standard (\$8) is the perfect example: a fat, smoky Polish sausage bursting with garlic and spice that's remixed with a soulful, rice-perfumed, soju-infused mustard and tangy kimchi kraut.

Then there are the vegetarian potskis (\$7), aka deep-fried dumplings, which are a cross between a potsticker and pierogi. They're packed with earthy shiitake, zingy sauerkraut and crumbly farmer cheese. Each pocket ends on a creamy note courtesy of smoked soy sauce- and sesame oil-infused sour cream.

Kopo Wangs (\$8) are smoked, roasted and deep-fried, and the skin on each piece of poultry is so crisp that it eats like a chicharron or pork rind. The juicy flesh drips in house "AP" sauce made with honey and fizzy fermented gochujang, a lip-smacking spicy red chili paste. While the sauce is distinctly Asian, the chicken is reminiscent of the fulsome turkeys my Polish grandparents put on the Thanksgiving table every year.

The bulgogi cheesesteak (\$10)—a weekly special made with Kim's mom's marinated



LENNY GILMORE/REDEYE PHOTOS

grilled ribeye recipe—is very Korean, but skewers less Polish and more Philadelphia with a blanket of Muenster cheese and golden caramelized onions. Instead of insipid green bell peppers, Kim sprinkles the bun-swaddled sandwich with bright, grassy ribbons of shishito pepper. A stroke of gochujang butter puts the whole thing over the top.

The only dish that felt like a stretch in the fusion category was the kimchi fried rice (\$7). Technically, the housemade “kraut-chi” adds some Polish flare, but the fried egg, scallion and greens make it a pitch-perfect facsimile of meatless Korean bibimbap.

The drinks

A chalkboard menu lists 24 draft beer choices, an ample selection of lagers, bocks and IPAs from usual local suspects such as Three

REVIEW
Kimski
 960 W. 31st St.
 773-890-0588

Already hot!

Floyds Brewing Co. and Goose Island Beer Co. as well many other regional American and European breweries. Still, I stuck with the sodas, which included a sweet, pecan-infused root beer from Fest Cola and an elderflower and rose sparkling lemonade (both \$1.99 each) that tasted like a refreshing mashup of prosecco and rosé spiked with lemon.

Bottom line

Kimski's KoPo cuisine is something you've probably never seen or tasted in Chicago. Throw in a patio-outfitted dining space and a killer beer list and you've got the hottest place to be this summer.

MICHAEL NAGRANT IS A REDEYE CONTRIBUTOR. REPORTERS VISIT RESTAURANTS UNANNOUNCED, AND MEALS ARE PAID FOR BY REDEYE.
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La Michoacana Premium shop in Pilsen offers a variety of flavors such as mango diablo (front), ganabana (left), pistachio, (left back), strawberry and cheese (center back), chocolate (back right) and tamarind (right). **ABEL URIBE/TRIBUNE**

Chicago neverias offer unique flavors

By Bill Daley | CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Vanilla is gonna seem, well, vanilla after you've been to one of Chicago's neverias, or Mexican-style ice cream stores, where the roster of flavors might include cheese, pine nut and even tequila. The possibilities are astounding—and delicious.

"If it can be churned, you can bet that it's an ice cream flavor somewhere in Latin America," wrote Sandra A. Gutierrez in her 2013 book "Latin American Street Food."

And ice cream is just part of the story: You can also order fruit or cream ice pops (paletas) and mangonadas, made with sorbet, chopped mango, lime juice and chamoy sauce, a bracingly sweet, sour, tangy and salty sauce.

Gutierrez, who grew up in the United States and Guatemala, recalls chuckling when she saw Baskin-Robbins advertising 31 flavors. "That's nothing," she said, noting that a Mexican ice cream store can have hundreds

of flavors, from cucumber to squash flower to avocado, which gives the ice cream an extra creaminess.

"We're just not shy when it comes to the ingredients," explained Pati Jinich, author of the new cookbook "Mexican Today" and star of "Pati's Mexican Table," a public-television cooking series.

Two of our favorite neverias to dip into are La Michoacana Premium (lamichoacanapremium.com) a neon-lit showstopper at 1855 S. Blue Island Ave. with servers who patiently explain the flavors and offer free spoonfuls; and Paleteria Las Delicias de Michoacan, 6649 N. Clark St., a friendly, more modest operation with freezer display cases full of frozen treats. How to tackle all that variety if you're a newbie?

Just jump in: "If it's sweet, it's creamy and it's cold, order it," Gutierrez said. "It's ice cream."

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SIP AND SAVOR

DROP THE FROZEN MARGARITA—THERE ARE WAY BETTER DRINKS TO PAIR WITH TACOS

By Joseph Hernandez | CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Margarita pitchers saturated with sugar or watery lager dressed up with lime are too often the typical go-tos when you're meeting friends for tacos. Especially when we're talking about a good taco—a soft, elastic tortilla stuffed with savory protein and bright salsa, sprinkled with cotija cheese, cilantro or crunchy radishes—you deserve something better.

Whether you're classing it up with wine, playing it cool with something nonalcoholic or indulging in tequila's smokier sibling, mezcal, up your taco drinking game with these drinks at these four spots.

Beer at Cruz Blanca

904 W. Randolph St. 312-733-1975

Rick Bayless' newest spot is everything a taco lover could want: flame-kissed meat, house-made tortillas and a slew of golden beers that are as much an event as the primal plating of tacos. Headed up by brewer Jacob Sembrano, the brewpub is home to an interesting lineup of nontraditional European-style beers, in particular three iterations of the light French biere de garde. The La Guardia Ambar—an amber-hued brew made from Mexican hominy—goes particularly well with the carne asada, thanks to its medium-body, healthy suds and toasty, nutty notes. You won't find IPAs on this menu, but the dry-hopped Smoke Alley, a wheat ale that's light in body with a hit of smoke and hops, is a fine match for your tacos too.

Wine at Summer House Santa Monica

1954 N. Halsted St. 773-634-4100

With its clean-yet-boho, Cali-cool vibe, Summer House serves light, beach-friendly fare that evokes the Golden State's rightful obsession with freshness. On the taco front, you'll find

line-caught mahi mahi served with cumin-scented rice, charred tomato salsa, guacamole and tortillas. This dish gives the humble taco a deliciously modern upgrade, so put down that Dos XX and listen up: Wine director Ryan Arnold suggests two wine pairings for the textured, meaty mahi mahi. "I'd seek out wines that are low alcohol, crisp and citrusy, and play a nice supporting role to really let the fish shine." Arnold's Old World pick, Ameztoi's txakoli, hails from northern Spain. "Minerality, salt and citrus with a little effervescence make this one of my favorite pairings." For a taste of Cali, Arnold also offers up a sauvignon blanc from Stolpman Vineyards, from Santa Barbara's Ballard Canyon region.

Mezcal at La Mez Agave Lounge

108 W. Kinzie St. 312-329-9555

Mezcal has been having a moment, with the opening of a few cocktails dens dedicated to the smoky spirit. La Mez, in the basement of River North's Mercadito, boasts more than 75 styles of the agave-based spirit. Start with the pollo tacos (chicken marinated with garlic and the Mexican herb epazote, topped with corn

hash, onions, a poblano-tomatillo mojo sauce, avocado and shallots), and pair it with a funky cocktail from Dylan Stewart, head mixologist for both spaces. He infuses Peloton de la Muerte mezcal with dried chanterelle mushrooms and plantains for four hours, then mixes the infusion with Lillet Blanc, honey, lemon and celery bitters, yielding a complex drink that is earthy and smoky, a perfect foil to the sweet corn in the taco.

Aguafresca at Antique Taco

1360 N. Milwaukee Ave. 773-687-8697

Want a nonalcoholic option? Light and fruity, aguafresca is the answer to salty, savory tacos. Translated simply as "fresh water," it's a blend of pureed fruit, water, sugar and a hit of citrus that's popular throughout Mexico and Central America, though you're just as likely to find it at taco stands and food carts in Chicago, Los Angeles and New York. At Antique Taco in Wicker Park, seasonal aguafresca (right now, blackberry) is always on the menu, with a bright, healthy dose of lemon juice to cut through fatty carnitas or lift up earthy cumin-dusted lamb tacos.

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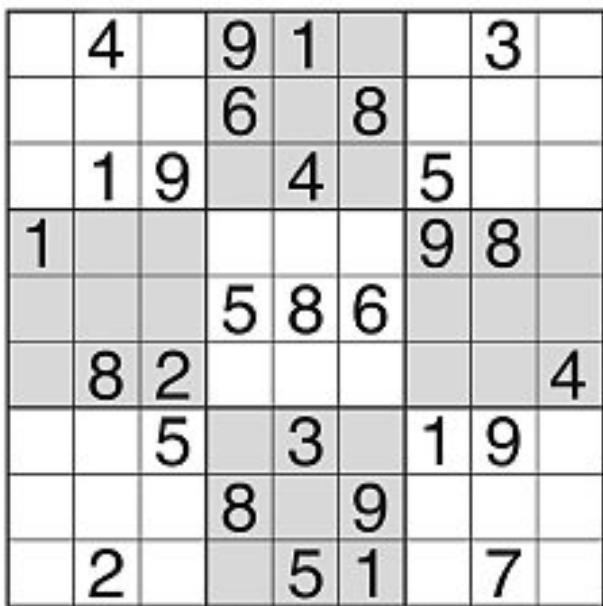
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THURSDAY'S SOLUTIONS



DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

TODAY'S CELEBRITY BIRTHDAYS

» Actor **Zayne Emory** (18)
 » Actor **Sean Berdy** (23)

» Actress **Imogen Poots** (27)
 » Tennis player **Rafael Nadal** (30)

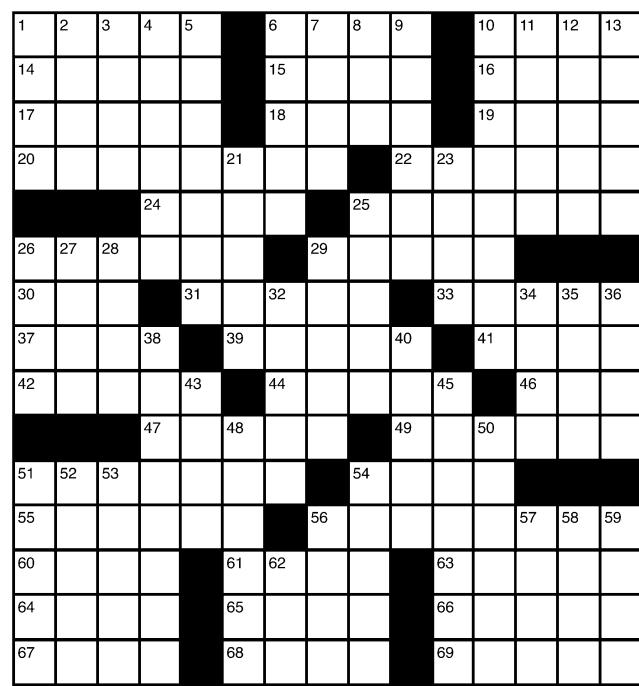
» Singer **Lyfe Jennings** (38)
 » TV host **Anderson Cooper** (49)

ACROSS

1 Amount bet
 6 Actor Pitt
 10 White _; state trees of Illinois
 In the know
 15 Tardy
 16 Word with jack or doodle
 Part of USNA
 Primates
 19 Celebration
 Vision
 22 Spain's peninsula
 Gabor & others
 25 Machine near a computer
 "Messiah" composer
 29 goal; NFL three-pointer
 30 _ clear day, you can see...
 31 Left-hand ledger entry
 "Ode to a Nightingale" poet
 37 Hubbub
 39 Not taut
 41 Urgent
 42 Flooring pieces
 44 Each _; one another
 46 " culpa"; "it's my fault"
 47 "Guilty" and "Not guilty"
 49 Stanzas
 51 Twist out of shape
 54 Location
 Inflame; egg on
 56 Winnipeg's province
 Poet Sandburg
 61 _ Louie; "King of Salads"
 63 Actor David
 64 Part of the leg
 Heavy book
 66 "We _ getting any younger"
 67 Stitches
 68 Celebrity
 69 Puts in the mail

DOWN

1 Lessen
 2 Out of town
 3 _ up; forfeited
 4 Wiped away
 5 Played over in one's mind
 6 Blue mood



7 Engrossed
 8 Panted off
 9 Insulted
 11 On the ball
 12 TV's Couric
 13 Lance
 21 Strong winds
 23 Cheat
 25 Emulate Sandy Koufax
 26 Party-giver
 27 Prefix for war or body

28 Hammer's target
 29 Italian autos
 32 Swell up
 34 Goals
 35 Poplar or pine
 36 Black, Yellow, Red and Dead
 38 Asps & lizards
 40 Actor Spacey
 43 Job opening
 45 Eye parts
 48 Builds

50 Take one's pension
 51 Clark & Cavett
 52 Silly
 53 Threaded fastener
 54 Curved sword
 56 Family member
 57 Microwave, e.g.
 58 _ down; stoop
 59 Crawling bugs
 62 Go bad

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red hot



THE DIGIT

7 That's the number of episodes the next season of "Game of Thrones" might have. Vanity Fair asked Jack Bender, who directed that traumatic episode "The Door," if he was coming back next season, and he replied that he didn't know, saying, "They're only doing seven [episodes], and they've got their regulars who have done it forever." All men must die, and so must all television shows.

A show for preschoolers ... and us

Just after the official announcement of the new "Mary Poppins" reboot, Netflix has announced that the O.G. Mary, Julie Andrews, is getting her own Netflix kids show, "Julie's Greenroom." She'll star as Mrs. Julie, "a Mr. Rogers-like figure with a flair for the performing arts," and will be joined by a bunch of puppets and celebrity guests including Ellie Kemper, Tituss Burgess and Idina Menzel, according to **vulture.com**. The show, due out in early 2017, is supposed to be for preschoolers, but screw that, we need our grandmother-figure fix.

AP

Sorry, Taylor

In case you missed it, Taylor Swift and Calvin Harris have split after 15 months of dating. Unnamed sources are saying all kinds of things about the breakup—like that Harris ended the relationship because he was "intimidated" by Swift's success, and that it "wasn't a shock" for her because they had ongoing problems, according to **people.com**—but we're sure we'll get all the details in her next album. Love is dead.

Introducing Captain Marvel?

Recent Oscar winner Brie Larson is in early talks to star as Captain Marvel in an upcoming standalone film, according to **variety.com**. The status of the negotiations is unknown, but Variety reports that sources have said Larson is the studio's first choice, and that "she's leaning toward playing the part." Fingers crossed!



Christopher Jackson as George Washington in **Hamilton**

Don't go!

Lin-Manuel Miranda plans to exit the stage of his Broadway smash hit "Hamilton" on July 9, according to **thr.com**. That's when many cast members' contracts are up, including Miranda's, and he has told confidants he'll be leaving to work on other projects, THR reported. So, you only have a little over a month to shell out your life's savings to see the original cast perform. Can you hear the cries of despair from theater and history geeks the world over?

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